

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANJUL 00225 011018Z

12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OFA-01 INT-05 COME-00 EB-07 EA-06

PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 /080 W

----- 054367

R 010900Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANJUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2351

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANJUL 0225

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GA, UR

SUBJ: PRESIDENT JAWARA'S VISIT TO THE USSR

DEPT FOR AF/W; ABIDJAN FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE

REF: MOSCOW 3634, BANJUL 181

1. BASED ON BRIEF MEETING WITH INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE HARRY LLOYD-EVANS, MEMBER OF GOTG DEL RECENTLY RETURNED FROM USSR, SOURCE REPORTS FISHERIES AGREEMENT DISCUSSED BUT NOT SIGNED. REPORTEDLY, SOVIETS WANT VIRTUALLY UNLIMITED FISHING RIGHTS IN BOTH COASTAL AND INLAND WATERS, WHICH GAMBIANS SO FAR UNWILLING TO GRANT.

2. HLE STATED THAT SOVIETS HAD PROMISED HIM FIFTY PERCENT OF ALL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO PUT 750 MAN GAMBIA FIELD FORCE INTO STATE OF READINESS TO "PUT UP AT LEAST TOKEN RESISTANCE SHOULD SENEGAL MOVE AGAINST THE GAMBIA". THE INSPECTOR GENERAL DECLINED TO SPECIFY WHAT EQUIPMENT HE HAD REQUESTED OR EXPECTED TO RECEIVE. HE SHOWED SOME PIQUE THAT "AMERICAN AND BRITISH FRIENDS" HAD FAILED TO MEET HIS

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PREVIOUS REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE.

3. ACCORDING TO LLOYD-EVANS, THE SOVIETS OFFERED TO BUILD A NUMBER OF HIGHWAY BRIDGES, WHARFS ON THE GAMBIA RIVER AND TO REPAIR/REPLACE THE UNDERWATER TELEPHONE CABLE UNDER THE RIVER WHICH CONNECTS BANJUL WITH DAKAR.

4. HE CONFIRMED THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD SOON OPEN A READING ROOM IN BANJUL AND WOULD STATION AT LEAST ONE SOVIET OFFICIAL HERE PERMANENTLY, OSTENSIBLY TO STAFF THE READING ROOM. HE INDICATED THAT A SOVIET EMBASSY IN BANJUL COULD BE EXPECTED SOON SINCE "THE PRC IS HERE NOW AND IS ESTABLISHING AN EMBASSY WITH A RESIDENT AMBASSADOR".
MCFARLAND

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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